

FARMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

	POLICY NUMBER: 501-01	EFFECTIVE DATE: 05/09/2016		
	SUBJECT: Social Service Diversion Programs			
	APPROVED BY:			

STEVEN D. HEBBE, CHIEF OF POLICE

PURPOSE:

To provide general guidelines for criminal justice and social service diversion program referrals.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Farmington Police Department to refer, direct, or provide assistance to individuals in need of criminal justice and social service diversion programs.

PROCEDURE:

The primary areas where criminal justice or social service diversion programs may become involved are:

Detoxification Unit- Upon contact with an individual at large that appears to be under the influence of alcohol, an officer should provide assistance in the interest of maintaining the individual's safety and welfare. Several factors should be considered:

1. Proximity to a subject's residence or family members capable of providing care. The officer may, at their discretion, transport the individual to a residence where a responsible party can be contacted for the care of the individual.
2. Level of intoxication:
 - a. Non-responsive individuals require that paramedics respond to the location for an evaluation of the subject.

- b. A responsive subject that appears to be too intoxicated to provide for their own welfare, or any other person specifically requesting assistance for alcohol or substance abuse, should be transported to the Detoxification Unit. Prior to transport, the officer should conduct a pat-down search of the individual and secure any items not on the individual's person in the trunk of the transporting unit.

Crisis Observation Unit- When addressing the safety and welfare of an individual with a suspected or verifiable mental illness, an officer should follow the guidelines outlined in policy 241-17, Responding to Persons with Mental Illness.

District Attorney's Office Pre-Prosecution Diversion Program (PPD) - Once a case is referred to the District Attorney's Office, it will be screened by the designated prosecutor who will make a determination as to whether the suspect would be eligible for PPD. Officers should provide any input requested by the District Attorney's Office to aid them in making their determination.

Court Ordered Diversion Programs - Courts in San Juan County at all levels utilize diversion programs. Officers of this department shall display a cooperative demeanor with the court and probation authorities when such programs are part of a court disposition. When requested or required, officers assist these agencies in mutual cooperation to facilitate a solution in situations involving substance abuse, mental illness, first time offenders, etc.